

I claim:

1. A method for equalizing heat distribution across a catalyst in a tube reactor comprising loading each tube of the tube reactor with one or more catalytic monoliths.

5 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said catalytic monolith is a ceramic monolith support impregnated with one or more catalytically reactive metals.

10 3. A method according to claim 1 wherein said catalytic monolith is an iron oxide useful in the catalytic dehydrogenation of ethyl benzene to styrene; and wherein flow paths in the catalytic monoliths are oriented to direct heat towards a center of each tube.

15 4. A method according to claim 2 wherein said catalytically reactive metal is selected from the group nickel, cobalt, and molybdenum; wherein said catalytic monolith is useful in the dehydrogenation of hydrocarbons; and wherein flow paths in the catalytic monoliths are oriented to direct heat towards a center of each tube.

20 5. A method according to claim 2 wherein said catalytically reactive metal is silver; wherein said catalytic monolith is useful in the vapor phase production of epoxides; and wherein flow paths in the catalytic monoliths are oriented to direct heat away from a center of each tube.